

**Reply Under 37 CFR 1.116 – Expedited Procedure  
Technology Center 2600****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****RECEIVED  
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Applicant: DOMINIK J. SCHMIDT § Group Art Unit: 2616  
Serial No.: 09/973,579 §  
Filed: October 9, 2001 § Examiner: Anh Vu H. Ly  
For: FLEXIBLE PROCESSING § Atty. Dkt. No.: IVT.0028US  
SYSTEM §

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED AUGUST 9, 2006**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 9, 2006, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 14 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 16 of this paper.

Date of Deposit: 10/10/06  
I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.116 that this correspondence is being deposited as a facsimile transmission to (571) 272-3300 on the date indicated above.

Stephanie Petreas